

GDR BULLETIN

NEWSLETTER FOR LITERATURE AND CULTURE IN THE GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC

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1976

A NEW YEAR, A NEW REQUEST.....

While the last issue's request for critiques and suggestions for the continuance of the Bulletin brought some gratifying responses and encouragement to our efforts, one of the more discouraging aspects of keeping the Bulletin going is the ever-increasing amount of correspondence involving personal requests which do not relate directly to material which can or should be published in the Bulletin. Although every attempt is made through the Bulletin to meet the needs of those interested in research or teaching on GDR topics, it is not possible to comply with personal requests for topical bibliographies or course outlines, dissertation advice, fellowship information, or publication opportunities, to name a few of the more common problems. Everything of this nature which is received is published in the Bulletin and there are simply not the resources for special efforts on most individual problems. Some, however, such as the numerous requests for bibliographies of English translations (see Research in Progress section) can be met by an appeal

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to readers of the Bulletin. Others, such as funding for conferences and symposia, special GDR publications, individual and group travel, are unfortunately beyond our range of competence -- as is political information, visa advice, travel planning and organizing lecture tours.

While this request is in no way meant to discourage the many submissions of announcements, bibliographic information and book reviews, as well as requests for information to be solicited from the general readership, it is a plea for understanding the problems caused by trying to respond to hundreds of letters incidental to the production of the Bulletin -- and the terseness of many of those replies.

FORTHCOMING CONFERENCES

IMAGES OF REVOLUTION IN THE CULTURE OF THE GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC

The second annual conference on the German Democratic Republic at the World Fellowship Center in Conway, New Hampshire will be held from June 24 to July 1, 1976. The theme of the conference will be the reflection of socialist revolution in the culture of the GDR. Of particular interest will be the question of the continuation of traditional cultural and artistic forms in a new society of socialism and the resultant question of "Erbaneignung." While it is to be expected that at this time in the United States and Canada people interested in the arts and literature will be particularly interested in these questions, people from other areas involved with the study of culture -- historians, sociologists, political scientists, etc. -- are also cordially invited. Within the area of the arts, questions about the reflection in literature, for example, of such revolutionary ideas and practices as are contained in feminism are of special interest.

Papers dealing with topics from this general area are invited and should be submitted by April 30, 1976 to: Duncan Smith, Box E, German Dept., Brown University, Providence, R.I. 02912.